

Appl. No. 10/656,773
Filed: September 4, 2003
Atty Dkt. No. HM-81223
Rule 111 Amendment in
Response to 2/12/04 Office Action

Title: SPORTBOARD FIN
ATTACHMENT SYSTEM
Edwin L. Swinehart
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3617

APPLICANT'S REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite because the claim dependencies were unclear. Applicant has carefully reviewed the method claims 19-23 and has revised independent claim 19, deleted claim 20, revised claims 21-23 and added new claim 24. It is believed with the noted changes, the method claims have proper dependency and are allowable over the cited prior art.

In particular, independent claim 19 now describes a tag engagement member having dual clamps and associated pin slots which engage opposing ends of tag-pin ends by a flexing action. The newly cited Leva patent is absent any clamping members and simply relies on the pressure exerted by a resilient fin finger forcing opposing pins into selected notches.

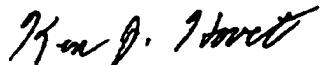
Also in the Office Action, claims 4-18 were indicated as being allowable. Therefore, Applicant has incorporated claim 4 into claim 1 and the claim dependencies have been changed accordingly. As such, dependent claims 2, 3 and 5-18 are now deemed allowable.

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In view of the above changes, Applicant most respectfully requests that Notice of Allowance be issued for claims 1-3, 5-19 and 21-24 in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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I, Kenneth J. Hovet, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 5-5-04.

Signature Kenneth J. Hovet

Date May 5, 2004